



## Vol. 2 Issue 6

### Inside This Issue

**June 2006**

*Hurricane  
Outlook*

*Disaster Supply Kit*

*Family Disaster Plan*

### WHAT'S NEW:

**June is  
National Safety  
Month**

### UPCOMING TRAINING and EXERCISES

**June 7-9 - WMD  
Response, Rhode Island**

**June 14—Hurricane  
Workshop for EMD's  
West Haven**

**June 24—Volunteer  
Symposium  
Windsor Locks**

## Commissioner Notes

By James M. Thomas

This issue of the DEMHS Advisor is dedicated to the 2006 Hurricane Season which officially began on June 1st. Beyond the dire predictions of another very active hurricane season, is the responsibility we all have to prepare for these storms. Page 2 contains the 2006 Atlantic Hurricane Outlook and links to several websites containing useful information on hurricanes and disaster preparedness. Connecticut's own hurricane history is shown on page 3. Our state is affected by a hurricane once every 10–15 years on average, and the last hurricane to directly strike Connecticut, "Gloria," occurred on September 27th, 1985 (21 years ago).

To assist individuals in preparing for this hurricane season, a disaster supply kit is available on page 4 and a family disaster plan is located on page 5. Additional information is also available on sheltering and safety during the storm.

I hope that you will take some time during the next few weeks to make preparations for this hurricane season. No one knows if Connecticut will be hit this year, however, we should all be prepared just in case.

Please enjoy this addition of the DEMHS Advisor.

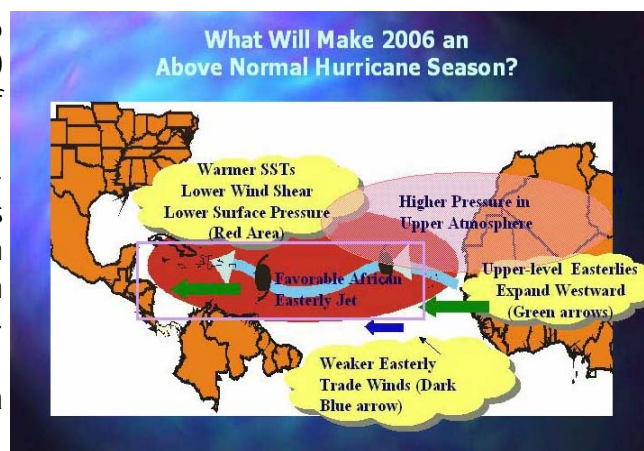
## NOAA: 2006 Atlantic Hurricane Outlook

Issued: 22 May 2006

### SUMMARY

NOAA's 2006 Atlantic hurricane season outlook indicates an 80% chance of an above-normal hurricane season. This outlook is produced by scientists at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center (CPC), National Hurricane Center (NHC), and Hurricane Research Division (HRD).

The outlook calls for a very active 2006 season, with 13-16 named storms, 8-10 hurricanes, and 4-6 major hurricanes (of Category III or above, see next page). The likely amount of total energy produced by hurricanes and tropical storms this season is forecast to range from 135%-205% of normal. This prediction indicates a continuation of above-normal activity that began in 1995. However, we do not currently expect a repeat of last year's record season.



### Names for the 2006 Hurricane Season

Alberto	Beryl	Chris	Debby	Ernesto	Florence	Gordon
Helene	Isaac	Joyce	Kirk	Leslie	Michael	Nadine
Oscar	Patty	Rafael	Sandy	Tony	Valerie	William

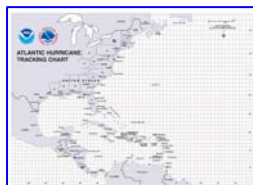
Links to Hurricane Information available on the Internet...

#### National Weather Service



National Hurricane Center

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/>



Tracking Maps

[http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pdf/AT\\_Track\\_chart2.pdf](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pdf/AT_Track_chart2.pdf)



American Red Cross

<http://www.redcross.org/news/ds/hurricanes/010524ABCs.html>

### HOW IS DEMHS GETTING READY FOR THIS HURRICANE SEASON...

On June 14<sup>th</sup>, The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security is sponsoring a Hurricane Preparedness Workshop for Emergency Management Directors.

#### SAFFIR / SIMPSON HURRICANE SCALE

Category	Sustained Wind Speed	Storm Surge
Tropical Storm	39 – 73 MPH	< 4 Feet
I	74 – 95 MPH	4 – 5 Feet
II	96 – 110 MPH	6 – 8 Feet
III	111 – 130 MPH	9 – 12 Feet
IV	131 – 155 MPH	13 – 18 Feet
V	>155 MPH	> 18 Feet

For more information on the Saffir / Simpson Hurricane Scale please visit the National Hurricane Center website at <http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/aboutsshs.shtml>

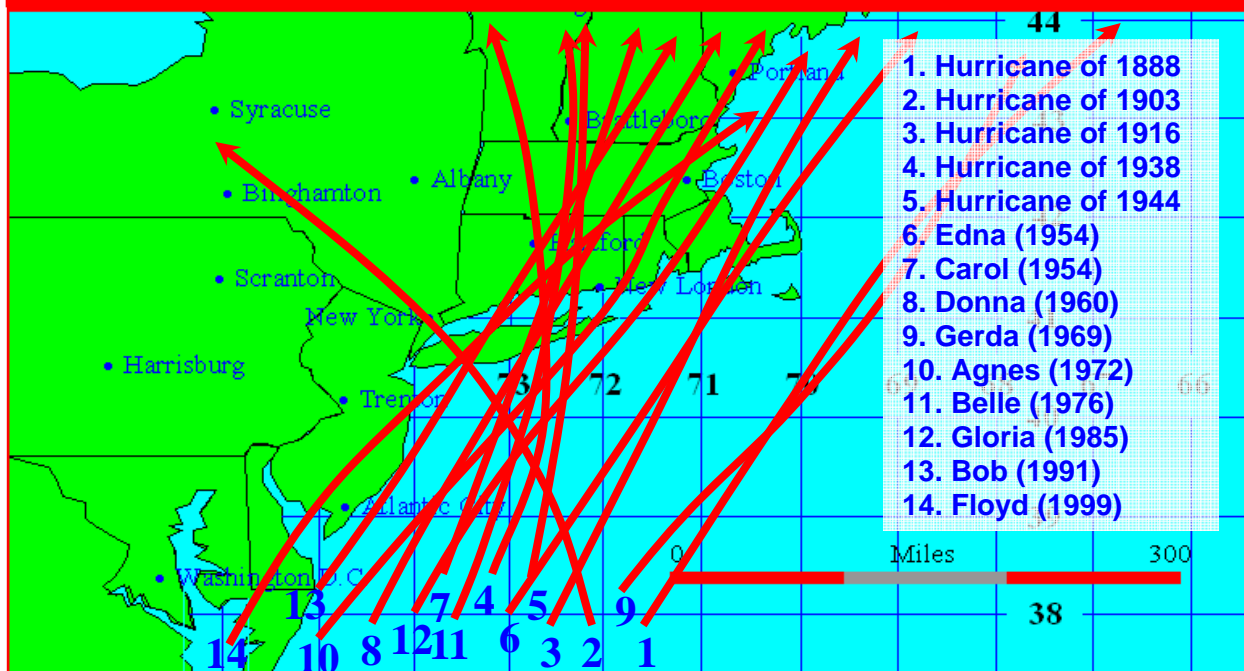
On June 20–22 the Federal Department of Homeland Security will hold a Regional Hurricane Exercise including all of the New England States.

On June 28<sup>th</sup>, a Statewide Hurricane Exercise will be conducted to train DEMHS Staff and exercise the State Emergency Operations Center.

DEMHS has updated the coastal evacuation plans for major hurricanes.

Weekly tropical updates and hurricane updates will be sent out by DEMHS via the E-Alerts System during this hurricane season.

### TRACKS OF HURRICANES THAT HAVE IMPACTED CONNECTICUT FROM 1886 - 2006



## **DISASTER SUPPLY KIT**

**Water** - at least 1 gallon daily per person for 3 to 7 days

**Food** - at least enough for 3 to 7 days

- non-perishable packaged or canned food / juices
- foods for infants or the elderly
- snack foods
- non-electric can opener
- cooking tools / fuel
- paper plates / plastic utensils

**Blankets / Pillows, Sleeping Bags, etc.**

**Clothing** - seasonal / rain gear/ sturdy shoes

**First Aid Kit / Medicines / Prescription Drugs**

**Special Items** - for babies and the elderly

**Toiletries / Hygiene items / Moisture wipes**

**Flashlight / Batteries**

**Radio** - Battery operated and NOAA weather radio

**Cash (with some small bills)** - Banks and ATMs may not be open or available for extended periods.

**Keys**

**Toys, Books and Games**

**Important documents** - insurance, medical records, bank account numbers, Social Security card, etc., should be kept in a waterproof container or watertight re-sealable plastic bag

**Tools** - keep a set with you during the storm

**Vehicle fuel tanks filled**

**Gas Grill or Portable Cook Stove filled** — Use only outdoors for cooking.

**Pet care items**

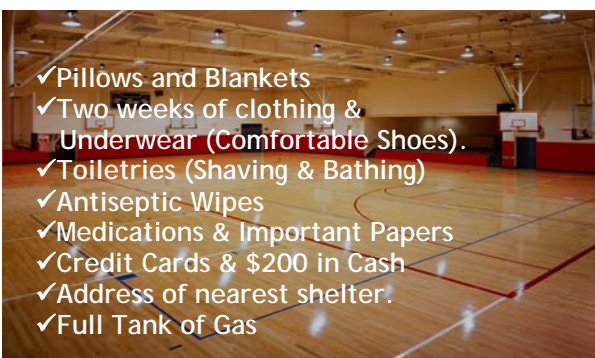
- proper identification / immunization records / medications
- ample supply of food and water
- a carrier or cage
- muzzle and leash

## FAMILY DISASTER PLAN

- ✓ Discuss the type of hazards that could affect your family. Know your home's vulnerability to storm surge, flooding and wind.
- ✓ Locate a safe room or the safest areas in your home for each hurricane hazard. In certain circumstances the safest areas may not be your home but within your community.
- ✓ Determine escape routes from your home and places to meet. These should be measured in tens of miles rather than hundreds of miles.
- ✓ Have an out-of-state friend as a family contact, so all your family members have a single point of contact.
- ✓ Make a plan now for what to do with your [pets](#) if you need to evacuate.
- ✓ Post emergency telephone numbers by your phones and make sure your children know how and when to call 911.
- ✓ Check your insurance coverage - flood damage is not usually covered by homeowners insurance.
- ✓ Stock non-perishable emergency supplies and a [Disaster Supply Kit](#).
- ✓ Use a [NOAA weather radio](#). Remember to replace its battery every 6 months, as you do with your smoke detectors.
- ✓ Take First Aid, CPR and disaster preparedness classes.

## SHELTER KIT

(Pack before Evacuation)...



## SAFETY TIPS DURING THE STORM...

- ✓ Follow all orders to evacuate.
- ✓ Never drive through flooded areas.
- ✓ Assume that all downed wires are live.
- ✓ Do not venture outdoors during the calm period in the eye of the storm.
- ✓ Remain in your home or shelter until the all-clear message is given.



**The deadline to nominate candidates for the 2006  
Emergency Manager of the Year Award has been  
extended to June 15, 2006**

Please send all nominations to:

Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security  
State Emergency Operations Center  
360 Broad Street, Rm. 164  
Hartford, CT 06105

ATTN: NESEC Awards Committee

## **HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP**

The Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security is sponsoring a Hurricane Preparedness Workshop on June 14, 2006. The conference will run from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and will be held at the Savin Rock Convention Center, Captain Thomas Blvd., West Haven, Ct. (directions below).

Due to space limitations the conference will be open to Emergency Management Directors only and pre-registration is required. Topics will include Evacuation and Sheltering, the EMAC process, Health Concerns After a Disaster, and more. Presenters will represent DEMHS, the American Red Cross, DPH, and DEP.

Please fill out the attached registration form and fax it to DEMHS at 860-256-0815 no later than June 1<sup>st</sup>. Seating is limited to 160 persons and will be accepted on a first come first served basis.

## Upcoming Training & Exercise

June 1	Emergency Management Symposium—Cromwell Crowne Plaza
June 7-9	WMD Response, Train the Trainer, Rhode Island
June 14	Hurricane Workshop for EMD's—West Haven, CT
June 22	New England Federal Hurricane Exercise
June 24	Volunteer Symposium, Windsor Locks. Register online at <a href="http://www.ct.gov/demhs">www.ct.gov/demhs</a>

For training and exercise questions please contact Bob Christ, Bob Scata, or Sharon Mazzochi at 860-727-9319. \*Please note—this is a new number. Training office has been moved to Brainard Field, 269 Maxim Road, Hartford, CT.

Training is critical for first responders and is readily available through the State Fire Academy, Regional Fire Schools, and the Police Officers Training Academy. First responders include Police, Fire, Public Works, Education and 911 dispatchers to name but a few.

All of the following organizations have the ability to deliver **NIMS training** to your police officers, firefighters, public works employees, 911 dispatchers, health workers, education staff and emergency management personnel. Training can be delivered weekdays, weekends or evenings to meet your needs. The NIMS program can be delivered in four, eight or twelve hour modules depending on the duties assigned to personnel.

You should also know that these programs are available on line at FEMA's web site:  
[http://www.fema.gov/tab\\_education.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/tab_education.shtm)

Training Facility Contact Information: call to schedule training.

Police Officers Training Council	203-238-6505
Connecticut Fire Academy	860-627-6363
Eastern CT Fireman's Training School	860-487-1105
New Haven Regional Fire Academy	203-946-6215
Wolcott Fire School	203-879-1559
Hartford County Fire School	860-828-3242
Burrville Fire Training School	860-482-7496
Valley Fire Training School	203-736-6222
Middlesex County Fire School	860-663-1308
Fairfield Fireman's Training School	203-254-4709
Stamford Regional Training Fire School	203-977-4673

All State Agencies should contact the Training Unit at DEMHS, 860-727-9319 to arrange training for your employees.

## **VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION SYMPOSIUM**

**Connecticut Fire Academy  
34 Perimeter Road, Windsor Locks, CT 06096**

**SATURDAY JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup>, 0830-1500 HRS**

Announcing a one day symposium, open to members of all volunteer organizations in the state. The seminar is co-sponsored by the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) and the CT Volunteer Organizations Active in Disaster (CT-VOAD). The target audience is members of volunteer organizations, executive boards and/or presidents, and is limited to 90 persons.

The symposium is being offered to bring existing volunteer organizations up to speed with the statewide effort to be prepared for this year's hurricane season. This includes discussions on the Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC), Liabilities, Credentialing and compliance with the National Incident Management System (NIMS). Each organization should have one representative prepared to present a 10-15 minute overview of their organizations capabilities and resources.

### **Agenda**

0830	REGISTRATION - COFFEE/AND
0900	INTRODUCTION & DEMHS UPDATE
0945	VISION OF PROJECT
1000	CT-VOAD STATUS
1030	ISSUES: LEGAL (AUTHORITY, LIABILITY, ETC.) CREDENTIALING TRAINING
1100	DISCUSSION ON: VIABILITY OR INTEREST GROUPS MISSING
1130	EMAC PROCESS
1200	LUNCH
PRESENTATIONS FROM VARIOUS GROUPS/SERVICES	

**Online registration required at [www.ct.gov/demhs](http://www.ct.gov/demhs)**